Introduced by Senator Alarcon

June 13, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 126—Relative to the importation of liquefied natural gas.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 126, as introduced, Alarcon. Importation of liquefied natural gas.

This measure would declare, in the event liquefied natural gas (LNG) is imported into the State of California by sea-borne transportation, that all longshore work and all vessels, including offshore and shore-side receiving terminals, should be crewed and staffed by a unionized work force, and that all required merchant mariner documents should be of United States Coast Guard issue.

Fiscal committee: yes.

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- WHEREAS, It is recognized that the importation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) into the State of California may be beneficial to working families in that this clean burning fuel may offset the rising cost of energy and its wider use may greatly increase the air quality in the state; and
 - WHEREAS, Working families live in proximity to the sites presently proposed for LNG receiving facilities and could be severely affected by catastrophic consequences should safety and security be compromised; and
- WHEREAS, A unionized work force will be much more inclined to report safety and security violations versus a nonunionized work force; and

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WHEREAS, The United States must protect its citizens and seaports from the dangers associated with terrorism and casualties related to: inadequately trained personnel; underqualified mariners; and workers who do not receive security-sensitive background checks by United States Government agencies; and

WHEREAS, The United States Coast Guard and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are able to ascertain the identity and proficiency of mariners who hold United States Coast Guard issued documents or certifications satisfying all regulatory requirements surrounding the LNG trade; and

WHEREAS, The United States Coast Guard and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are not able to ascertain the identity and proficiency of mariners who do not hold United States Coast Guard issued documents or certifications, the identity and proficiency of these mariners will be in question, and their employment in the LNG trade will be a distinct compromise of safety and security; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby declares, in the event liquefied natural gas (LNG) is imported into the State of California by sea-borne transportation, that all longshore work and all vessels, including offshore and shore-side receiving terminals, should be crewed and staffed by a unionized work force, and that all required merchant mariner documents should be of United States Coast Guard issue.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.